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## What Is Claimed Is:

- 1. A message handling process, including:

  determining if a message is approved for the recipient of the message;
- processing the message for subsequent viewing by the recipient if the message is approved; and notifying the recipient and storing the message if the message is unapproved.
- 2. A method as claimed in claim 1, including, following the notifying step, allowing the recipient to view an unapproved message.
  - 3. A method as claimed in claim 2, including notifying the recipient with a notification message having a link to network data representing a list of unapproved messages for the recipient.
  - 4. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the network data comprises markup language data accessible by a computer device of the recipient.
- 5. A method as claimed in claim 1, including allowing the recipient to set criteria to determine if the message is approved.
  - 6. A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the criteria includes a sender of the message being on a stored approved list for the recipient.
- 25 7. A method as claimed in claim 6, including allowing the recipient to change the criteria.
  - 8. A method as claimed in claim 1, including deleting an unapproved message a predetermined period of time after the notifying step.

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- 9. A method as claimed in claim 8, including notifying a sender of the unapproved message of deletion of the unapproved message.
- A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the messages and the criteria are stored on 10. an electronic message server. 5
- A message processing system, including: 11. means for determining if a message is approved for the recipient of the message; means for processing the message for subsequent viewing by the recipient if the message is approved; and 10 means for notifying the recipient and storing the message if the message is unapproved.
- 12. A message processing system, including: an electronic message server for receiving and storing electronic messages for a 15 recipient; and

an electronic message manager for processing electronic messages for a recipient to determine if the electronic messages are approved based on stored criteria, sending approved electronic messages for the recipient to a location for access by the recipient, and storing and sending a notification to the recipient of unapproved messages.

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- A message processing system as claimed in claim 12, further including an access server 13. for generating a display page with a list of unapproved messages, the notification comprising an electronic message with a link to the display page.
- 25 14. A message processing system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the list of unapproved messages includes links to the unapproved messages respectively and which on selection causes transmission of an unapproved message to a recipient's computer device for viewing by the recipient.

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- 15. A message processing system as claimed in claim 14, wherein the criteria includes the sender of a message being on an approved list for the recipient stored on the system.
- 16. A message processing system as claimed in claim 15, wherein the display page includes a link to at least one display page for displaying and changing the criteria.
  - 17. A message processing system as claimed in claim 15, wherein the display page includes a link for changing the criteria.
- 10 18. A message manager stored on a computer readable storage medium having code for executing the steps of the method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10.

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